off I guess he must a' cleared up close to \$800,000. An' then the old fool went an' blowed it all in Wall Street, an' died before he could make a new pile. But, say! What's this got to do with—" "With Miss Shevlin? I am coming to that. This 'mar's nest,' as you call it, that Parkham has unearthed, may look harmless to you and to other practical business-politicians. But to nine people out of ten it will have very much the look of bare-faced robbery. So much so that it will prove the biggest newspaper sensation of the year.

gest newspaper sensation of the year. Mr. Shevlin will be everywhere spoken

adage about 'every man having his price' won't apply in Parkman's case.' "Rot!" growled Conover. "There

hands. A noospaper is a good weapor for a big man to keep for emergencies

If t'wasn't for the papers I could a pulled off lots of dandy schemes. What a cinch the old time business men must a had before printin was invented!"

His voice trailed away. His head once more sank. His eyes were shut;

"I thought it only fair-"began Caine

"Shut up!" grunted Conover. "I'm thinkin'. Leave me be."

Caine, in no wise offended, held his peace, and watched the big concentrated

figure that sprawled so motionless in the desk chair. For several minutes the two sat in silence. Then Caleb

opened his eyes. The frown had clear-ed; the light of battle flickered beneath

Courthouse was started. Six months before then, he'd sold out the whole

should offer so vile an insult to my

intelligence."
"What d'ye mean?" queried Caleb
with bland innocence.

"I mean, every word of that rig-marole is a threat in one of the clumslest tangles of lies I have ever had the misfortune to listen to. I thought better of your inventive pow-

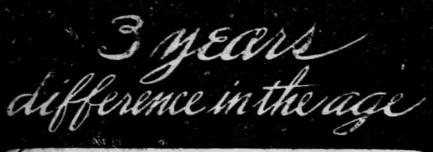
"You don't believe me?" exclaimed

Conover, aggrieved.

"I'm not lucky enough to have had the Chess Queen's training in 'believing at least three impossible things before breakfast every morning." misquoted Caine. "Really, Conover did it never occur to you that telling an unnecessary lie is almost tempting Providence?"

Conover, aggrieved.

his forehead contracted.



The law says that all "bottled-inbond whiskey" must be at least four years old.

But we say that four years isn't. sufficient to properly age whiskey.

## James E. Pepper

Bottled in Bond

Order by Mail Full quarts, 7-year-old \$500 (Bottled in Bond)

12 Full quarts, 7-year-\$1500 nt express prepaid in plain package

T. J. MURPHY, 881 Main St. Bridgeport, Conn.

# Administrator's Sale By AUCTION

House and Lot, 1105 North Avenue EPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE A HOME

the sold to close estate of Thomas Knablin, deceased Sale on Premises, June 26, 1909, 2:30 p.m.

PATRICK KANE, Administrator

### SUMMER GOODS

PORCH ROCKERS, CHAIRS AND SETTEES. U. S.

High class Furniture, Draperies and Novelties, re-uphol-

The only store of its Telephone 732-3

DVERTISE IN THE FARMER

# THIS MEANS YOU! A POINTER

How To Improve Business

ONE OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL REQUISITES TO AN UP-TO-DATE, MODERN BUSINESS, IS A SELECT AND WELL-PRINTED ASSORT-MENT OF OFFICE STATIONERY. "A MAN IS JUDGED BY THE COM-PANY HE KEEPS." THE SAME RULE APPLIES TO THE STATION-ERY OF BUSINESS MEN.

The Farmer Publishing Co.

**Book and Job** Printers . . . .

27 Fairfield Ave. Bridgeport, Conn.

### THE FIGHTER

By ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE Author of "Caleb Conover, Railroader," "Dr. Dale," "On Glory's Trail," etc.

NEW YORK FRANK F. LOVELL COMPANY

Copyright, 1909, by Albert Payson Terhune Millian Carrie Committee of the Committe

"I—I don't quite know yet," she made reply, unreasonably scared by his sudden glance. "We shall probaly stay in town rather late this year. "Good!" approved Caleb. "I hope we'll see a lot of each other."

And looking into his light, masterful the girl knew all at once that she

eyes, the girl knew all at once that she would not have the wit nor the force to avoid him. The knowledge turned to avoid him. The knowledge tuned her sick. Her round, helpless gaze shifted involuntarily to Desiree, as the nearest woman to her. And, under the genuine fright behind that appeal the steel glint that had of a sudden hardened Desiree's big eyes, softened

the steel glint that had of a sudden hardened Desiree's big eyes, softened unaccountably. A quick sentence that had risen to her lips died unborn.

For a moment before convention could lower the veil, the two women read each other to the very soul. At what the brief glance told her, Letty drew her breath with a sharp intake that made Conover glance at her inquiringly. To cover her confusion Miss Standish plunged into speech on the first subject that crossed her mind.

"I hope you don't mind Uncle Guy's rudeness, Mr. Conover," she began. "He really doesn't mean half the cross things he says. He suffers so dreadfully from dyspepsia and—and there are sometimes family troubles, too, that—"

"I know," assented Caleb. "I've

"I know." assented Caleb. "I've heard. Married a wife that was too rich for him. She don't always agree with him. I hear, an' I s'pose it gives him mental indigestion. No offence. I forgot they're rel'tives of yours." "I'm sorry, just the same, that he spoke so threateningly to you," went

spoke so threateningly to you," went on Letty.

She found it so easy to talk to him now A weight seemed off her heart.

"Threats don't keep me guessin' very much." Conover reassured her, delighted at her new ease of bearing toward him. "No one's goin' to do a rich man any real harm or hold grouches against him. To him that hath, it shall be forgiven. That's in the Bible ain't it? Or somethin' like it. The trouble with men like your uncle is that they don't see any farther ahead than twenty years ago. Business an pol'tics have changed a lot since then. But the old crowd don't see it. They're like a feller that rows a boat. They move ahead because the boat carries 'em ahead. But they're always facin' astern."

astern."

He felt he was talking amazingly well. He was almost annoved when Desiree, having sat in troubled silence for some minutes, rose abruptly and proposed that they should go.

Letty Standish, watching them depart, was saying over and over to herself in a rapturous sing-song:

"She won't let him make love to me She won't! She won't!"

CHAPTER XV

Caleb Conover Lies. One morning, a week or so later. Caine strolled into Conover's private office. Under the young newspaper NAVY HAMMOCKS, AND REFRIGERATORS

THE WENTWORTH FURNITURE CO., Inc.

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS

115 JOHN STREET

TOPOLOGY TO BE STREED AVE.

A Doors Above Broad St.

Chair strolled into Conover's private office. Under the young newspaper owner's customary jauntiness was a hint of something more serious. Conover, as skilled in reading men as he was ignorant in deciphering any roblem relating to woman, was aware at a glance of the subtle change.

"Sit down," he said, nodding to his secretary to go "What's wrong? If you're scared because Steelold fell off three-quarters of a point yesterday, you can rest easy. I did it myself on 'match' sales and a few others—"

"It isn't Steelold," said Caine. "It's mothing that really concerns me. But I thought you would want to know a strolled into Conover's private office. Under the young newspaper owner's customary jauntiness was a hint of something more serious. Conover, as skilled in reading men as he was ignorant in deciphering any self, he broke into a laugh.

"If only you knew better," he sighed in comic resignation, "you'd be horse-whipped three times a week. What a mighty impregnable armor is profound ignorance! Unfortunately," he went on more gravely, "I couldn't avail myself of your very tactfully velled offer even if I chose. The Star is but one of Granite's four daily newspapers. If I thought you would want to know a strolled into Conover's private office. Under the young newspaper serious. Conover, as skilled in reading men as he was ignorant in deciphering any self, he broke into a laugh.

"If only you knew better," he sighed in comic resignation, "you'd be horse-will be provided in comic resignation." If only you knew there, whence of a point yesterday, you can rest easy. I did it myself on 'match' sales and a few others—"

"It isn't Steelold," sald Caine. "It's nothing that really concerns me. But I want to know with the story of the story of the supplementary of the provided in comic resignation. "You'd be horse-will be provided in comic resignation." I will n

thought you would want to know bout it."
"Fire away, then," vouchsafed Caleb. "H'm." mused Conover. "I s'pose so. I s'pose so. In another five years there won't be a paper in Granite that'll dare print a word I tell 'em not to. I wish now I'd bought up their stock already; instead of waitin' until I get some more important deals off my "Have a cigar? These with the gold an' red life belts are nice to look at. But if you want something that tasted

But if you want something that tastes better'n it looks, try one of the panatelas. The ones without illustrations on 'em. Now what is it?"

It's about Miss Shevlin," began Caine, with reluctance.
Conover's massive calm fied. He brought down his crossed legs from the desk corner with a bang and whirled his chair about.

his chair about.
"Speak it out quick!" he ordered
sharply. "Ain't sick, is she?"
"No, no. This is different. You've
heard of Ex-Governor Parkman's plan

to start an anti-graft crusade, of "Sure!" grinned Caleb. "Them croo

"Sure!" grinned Caleb. "Them droosades are as certain as measles. Ev'ry
city goes through 'em ev'ry once in so
often. They don't do any real hurt
and they can't tie up my bus'ness so's
to bother me any. Let 'em croosode 'till
they're black in the face. It'll be good
for you noospaper fellers, an' it won't
harm anybody it's aimed at. "But,"
uneasily, "what's that got to do with
Dey?"
"I'm coming to the point if you'll

his shrewd lids.

"Calne," he said solemnly. "I got a confession to make. You're the first to hear it. So be flattered. Calne, O! Man Shevlin had nothin' to do with the Shevlin Contractin' Company, at the time the City Hall an' the County the time the City Hall an' the County the county of the c uneasily. "what's that got to do with Dey?"

"I'm coming to the point if you'll give me a chance. Parkman's preparing a set of tables showing not only how municipal funds are squandered at present but how they were misspent in the past. In the course of his investigations, he has come to the City Hall and the County Court House."

"Well?" queried Conover. "What then? Both of 'em was built ten years ago. That's over an' done with."

"The Shevlin Contracting Company did the work," interpolated Caine.

"What of that? Neither building's caved in, has it?"

"Not yet. Thourh, if all Parkman claims is true, I don't know why they haven't. He came to me this morning with the whole story. Proofs, affidavits and all. He wants to give the Star first chance to publish the exposure. I told him to come back at noon, and—" Courthouse was started. Six months before then, he'd sold out the whole business to me."

"What are—?"

"Hold on a second," ordered Caleb, "Hear all the sad, sad secret before you fly up in the air. I bought out the Sheviin Contractin' Company, lock, stock an' bar'l; good will an' fixtures. I still ran it under Shevlin's name, so's to get the good of his old trade. That's why I worked through agents I didn't appear in it at all. I built the Court House an' the noo City Hall an' made close onto a million out of the deal. It was crooked work if you like. But the statoot of limitations'll keep me from bein' indicted for it. I guess. An' if I am indicted, I'll bet fifty dollars to fifty doughnuts the case'll never come to trial. Yessir, I'm the guilty man, all right. An' I can prove it."

"Are you quite through?" asked Caine with exaggerated politeness, as the Fighter paused.

"Yep. That's bout all. Good story for the papers, hey?"

"An excellent story—for the horse marines," retorted Caine. "Really, Conover." he continued almost plaintively. "I don't see what overt acts of idiocy I have ever committed that you should offer so vile an insult to my intelligence."

"What exposure?" asked Caleb in perplexity.
"It seems he took pains to hunt up the original specifications on both buildings," resumed Caine, "And then he hired an architectural expert to go he hired an architectural expert to go over the plans and the work and see how the two agreed. Thus far, he has found cheap foundations and sandstone bedding where the best concrete and granite were called for. Stucco has been used in no less than four corridors where the plans called for marble. The 'solid marble pillars' on the east portico are 'composition,' shells filled with cement. Then the facade—"
"Say, son," interrupted Conover with perfect sincerity, "what in blazes is the matter with you and Parkman? You've bit into a mare's nest, an' any

the matter with you and Parkman? You've bit into a mare's nest, an' any practical man'il tell you so. Of course a contractor's goin' to make what he can on a job. He ain't in the business for his health or to endow the city, is he? He's got to get his, an' the po'ticians who throw the job to him have got to get theirs. An' that bein' so, how's he goin' to foller out all the arch'tect's spec'fications an' still make the right money out of it? He can't. I thought ev'rybody knew that much pol'tics."

pol'tics."

"Conover," observed Caine, in unwilling admiration. "I've heard people say you're a man of bad morals. It isn't true. You're simply a man of no morals at all. Do you mean to say—?"

"I mean to say business is business an' pol'tics is business too. I never heard of any good comin' from mixin' up morals with either of 'em. If you came here to-day to tell me this story, with an idee that I'd slap my manly brow an' say: 'Great heaven! Can such things be?' you're brought your s'prise party to the wrong house. Of course, Shevlin made a good thing out of those two buildin's. Even after the folks I ighher up had got their rake

needed. My say-so will be b'lieved for once. Folks won't s'pose a man would accuse himself of bein' a crook if he was really on the square."

"Do as you please," replied Caine impatiently, "but don't keep up the farce with me."

"All-right," assented Caleb with cheerful acquiescence. "I won't, if it jars you. But that's the story that's goin' out under my name. An' you're the man who's goin' to help me. Now listen to me, an' be sure you get my

the man who's goin' to help me. Now listen to me, an' be sure you get my instructions right. An' don't butt in with any objections. Because I need you to help me. If you don't some other papers will. May as well get a 'beat' for the Star. Besides, you know I can help folks sometimes who helps me. There's other deals besides Steeloid. Will you stand by me? Is it a go?"

"There'll be a record—If it's needed." countered the Fighter. "That's the easiest part of it all. But it won't be needed. My say-so will be b'lieved for

The Fighter's tone had deepened to a growl that held more menace than appeal. His eyes were fixed in scowling command on his visitor's face.

"This cringing attitude of yours touches me to the heart," said Caine; speaking lightly, though he felt the other's magnetic domination throughout his entire being. "What do you want me to do?

of as—"
"I catch your meanin'!" broke in Caleb. "The 'Holler'n Thou' crowd will raise a yell, drag Shevlin out of his snug, com'table grave an' croocify him. He'll be spoke of by the papers an' by the man on the street as the rottenest grafter of the century. An' ev'rywhere Dey goes, folks'll nudge each other an' whisper: 'Them fine clo'es was bought out o' the dough her ol' man stole from the city.' An' all the "I want you," dictated Conover, "to go back to your office and send for your best reporter. Don't put this up to your managin' editor, but handle it yourself. The reporter will work a lot better when he thinks it's a story the owner's intrested in. That's work-man-nature, ain't it?"
"Go ahead." smiled Caine, fighting against that merciless domination which found expression in the man himself, not in his words. man stole from the city.' An' all the time there's no less than a dozen cases of city graft goin' on in Granite to-day

(To be Continued.)

of city graft goin' on in Granite to-day that are raw enough to make Sheviin's deals look like a game of Old Maid'. Still." he muttered, 'dropping his head on his chest in thought, "all that won't keep this story from queerin' Dey in s'ciety and givin' her a black eye as the daughter of a grack". Everyone would be benefitted by taking Foley's Orino Laxative for con-stipation, stomach and liver trouble, as it sweetens the stomach and breath, s'clety and givin' her a black eye as the daughter of a crook."

'That's why I put off Parkman till I could see you." explained Caine, "He came direct to me with the news. It's lucky I happened to be in town. If he had gone to my managing editor instead, there would be a scare-head Extra on the streets by now."

"Well."returned Conover, "the story's got to be hushed up, of course. An' I school on Tuesday June 20th with an

Mrs. Theodore Carter will close her school on Tuesday June 29th with appropriate exercises, ice cream and cake will be served on the lawn.

Mrs. P. B. Percy, of Weston, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jennings of Sport Hill, have been recent guests of Mrs. Helen Godfrey.

Mrs. W. L. Douglass spent Saturday in Washington, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Nichols who were guests at the home of Mrs. A. S. Sturges last week, returned to Brooklyn on Friday. well, returned Conover, "the story's got to be hushed up, of course. An' I hate to pay hush-money. But I guess this is one of the times when it's got to be done. I wonder what's Parkman's price?"

Caine laughed, mirthlessly. "Parkman's as rich a man as you are," he said. "And he's so upright that he bends backwards. He would like nothing better than to prove attempted bribery against you. No, the

Sturges last week, returned to Brook-lyn on Friday.

Mrs. W. B. Hill is spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. J. Sherwood in Weston.

Mrs. Mary White has received word of the birth of a little girl to her daughter, Mrs. Ely Talcott Ryder, of New York. New York.
The "Cannoniers" will go into camp at Washington, Conn., on June 26th, for a short stay.

"Rot!" growled Conover. "There ain't a case on earth where it won't apply. The price ain't always money; but it's always dead sure to be somethin'. Only, I ain't got time, I s'pose, to find out what Parkman's partic'lar rates are. I wish I had. If I'd had wind of this a week earlier I'd have been able by now to lay my finger on his pet weakness or fav'rite sin or cash price an' say "Shut up!" An' he'd a'done it, quicker'n greased lightning."
"You're mistaken." averred Caine. "But that has nothing to do—"
"I know it has nothin' to do with this muddle we're in now." snapped Conover. "I ain't sayin' it has. But Parkman has his price just the same if only we could find out what it is. There never was but one Man that hadn't. An' that was why they put Him to death. What do you wan't for keepin' the story out of the Star?" he ended abwantly. Mrs. Barbara Willing has been en-tertaining her sister, Miss Maggie Schubert Redding and friends from Chicago this week. Miss Henrietta Willing returned to



### Cesare Lombroso Tells About Ghosts

Lombroso is one of the leading scientists of Europe, an expert in criminology and psychology.

Some years ago he made light of the idea of "ghosts" and psychic research. A prominent Italian professor challenged him to investigate, and Lombroso accepted. Since then he has studied ghosts with the same care and precision which won him fame in analyzing criminals. His principal subject has been the world famous medium, Eusapia Paladino. He has investigated her feats of levitation-of materialization—all the phenomena. The results are marvelous.

He has written out his report carefully and it is by all odds the most authoritative article on psychic research ever printed. Don't fail to read it in

### HAMPTON'S MAGAZINE

JULY-ON SALE NOW Other of the twenty great features in this splendid number are-

A Trust in Water and Air\_ "A Trust after everything except the air we breathe?" Yes, and even after that, John L. Mathews tells how.

"Fighting Bob" on Target Practice-Admiral Evans tells the story of the men behind the

The Vanderbilt Fortune-Inside facts and bookkeepers' figures about the New York Central; by Charles E. Russell.

The Wood Box-An exceptional story full of life and vigor and color by Gouverneur Morris. Other stories by Harris Mertin Lyon, Jennette Cooper, Ellis Parker Butler and a serial by Rex Beach, besides good short

Buy it today-any live newsdealer 15 cents HAMPTON'S MAGAZINE, New York



"Say, the Boot Blacking Business is on the Bum-Most Folks is Shinin Dere Own Shoes Now Wid 'Nugget.'"

"Nugget" is a good thing for more to convince you of the merit shoes but bad for the business of "Nugget" than pages of adverthe boot blacks.

After you have once tried "Nug-get," when you see how quick and easy it is to polish your own "NUGGET

your shoes. "Nugget" does more than give a soft, lustrous polish to shoes. It feeds and nourishes the leather, keeps it soft and

have no more use

pliable, and prevents unsightly ridges and cracking. It waterproofs the leather. "Nugget" does all this in little time and with little effort.

Twenty millions of tins are sold each year to people who have learned how easy it is to have their shoes look well and last long by using "Nugget."

A little 10c box (containing more than 100 shines) will do

10c a Box-Black or Tan

Get a box today.

"Nugget" Polishes and "Nug-

get" Kits (a box containing a box

ishing pad) are

stores, grocers

# Wines and Liquors

### BRIDGEPORT DISTRIBUTING CO.,

102 STATE STREET, NEAR PUBLIC MARKET California Port or Sherry, 75 cents per gallon. Port, Sherry, Tokay, Muscatel, Rhine Wine, etc. Full quart Sherwood Rye Whiskey, \$1.00. Cooking Brandy, Liquors, Cordials, Ale and Lager Beer. Telephone 264-3 Free Delivery.

New Made Spring Butter, fresh from the churn 28c PER POUND

THE PEOPLE'S DAIRY, 130, State St

INSIST UPON HYGIENIC ICE

ALWAYS CLEAN, CLEAR, PURE, WHOLESOME

For household use there is nothing superior—the big crystal blocks are frozen from water that has been purified through being both filtered and distilled before freezing—could you think of a way to make it purer?

THE NAUGATUCK VALLEY ICE CO.

421 HOUSATONIC AVENUE

Down Town Office

IRA GREGORY & CO. Branch Office

Main Street

Established 1847

Main Office Stratford Avenue

WAKE UP! STOP DREAMING : : :

THE ARNOLD COAL COMPANY YARD AND MAIN OFFICE Branch Office GEO. B. CLAR & CO. Telephone 2457 30 Fairfield Avenue

COAL= =WOOD -and-Flour, Grain, Hay and Straw, WHOLESALE

BERKSHIRE MILLS.

ICE COAL WOOD

Try Sprague's Extra GRADE LEHIGH COAL Sprague Ice& Coal Co.

ABSOLUTELY

COAL GUARANTEED CLEAN

SCREENED BY A NEW MACHINE just installed, and we invite customers to call at our yard

and see it in operation. Coal is advancing in price each ?

month at wholesale and must soon advance at retail. DO NOT DELAY ORDERING

WHEELER & HOWES, 944 MAIN ST. Yard, East End Congress Street Bridge

Want Ads Cent a Word.